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Statement by Vice-President Frans ANDRIESSEN

Recent developments in Czechoslovakia

Recent developments in Czechoslovakia, opening the way to the re-establishment of democratic rights and liberties, are a cause for profound rejoicing throughout Europe. Political reform and economic liberalisation in Czechoslovakia form part of a wider process which, for the first time in more than forty years, offers to future generations the prospect of a Europe no longer riven by division. It is particularly encouraging that this process should now be extended to a country whose traditions should enable it to make an important contribution to peace and reconciliation in Europe.